MERRIMACK HERITAGE COMMISSION NOTES May 9, 2016

ATTENDANCE: Meeting not held. Insufficient attendance

REVIEW FEBRUARY and MARCH UNOFFICIAL MINUTES:

MEMBERSHIP STATUS: Have one full opening and three alternates. We are in a critical situation. Moving to every two months has not improved the attendance. Lynne suggested possibly every three months, possibly holding the meetings at the end of the Historical Society meetings, when we already have some interested people present. Anita would like to see some input from the present members on this. The next scheduled meeting is July 11, but Anita will be out of town that week. Is June 13 feasible for YOU? At that time, we can discuss the potential for the Historical Society schedule. I will visit the Senior Center to see about inspiration there, but may not find anyone able to attend evening meetings. I will also talk with Kristen to see of any possibility of her returning. We also have two members whose terms expire at the end of June: Lynne and Deb. Need input from them as to their plans.

OLD BUSINESS:

<u>Historical Home Plaques</u>: Lon has been unable to contact Ward, Twardosky or Trotter. Anita has been unable to reach 5 others. **Anita** will make serious attempts to finalize this, so we can get plaques made for those who have responded, including Bernier.

<u>John Cromwell plaque replacement</u>: Anita met with Dave Brooks, who will contact AB about getting the monument moved to his location.

<u>Photos for Memorial Room:</u> Still not up. **Anita** will contact Jackie Flood to see about some action. If Lon or Finlay have contact, it might help a lot.

<u>Wooden Stocks at Weston Park</u>: <u>Lynne</u> would like to see the stocks moved further toward the cemetery. She will contact Parks and Rec. to see about doing this and about the key to the kiosk to put information at that location.

Possible new location for Historical Society:

Rev. Wright's House: Hal Jordan has **no further action**. Anita talked with him to ask permission to trim the shrubs and trees to open visibility, but he declined. Doubtful that anything will happen with this property. Sigh!!!!!!

Fish Hatchery: **No further action**. Maybe someday. Have had comments from two people who do not want the Schoolhouse #12 moved. In the meanwhile, we need to address condition of #12 and available storage there.

Welcome Signs: Anita gave Dave Brooks the approval to begin work using the first of the fonts submitted, since we had no other response. **Anita** has contacted the owners of the land at both ends of town. We will be able to put a southbound sign on the WFEA property, but don't yet know the right-of-way from the DOT. Nothing made of granite or concrete can go into the R of W. They have said they will let me know next week. On the northbound sign, the only area with flat space is either owned by Edgebrook LLC or the DOT for the right-of-way for the circumferential highway, owned

by the DOT. I met with the LLC Lawyer, and we walked the boundaries. I talked with DOT, and am waiting response on the right-of-way from the road. If it is in the circumferential highway R.O.W, they would like the town to purchase that land back or possibly rent it for our use. Egad! Either way, I should have an answer as to the distance from the center line in each part of town, to deal with it further.

Relocation of ice house and corn crib: Lynne has looked at the ice house, and it looks like it has no foundation. May have to disassemble and reassemble. Anita has not yet talked with the owner of the corn crib. She needs to do that. Previous to any move, Anita needs to talk with Parks and Rec. about allocation in Wasserman Park and how to go about this.

K of C Craft fair in Nov. We are registered.

<u>Participation in July 4th program</u> booth and event: **Anita** is working on locations for another scavenger hunt and preparation for a passport to go with it.

<u>Boston Post Cane</u>: **Finlay** was to look into having some replicas made for distribution to the current cane-holder to retain. No response on that yet.

ONGOING PROJECTS:

<u>Town Tour Brochures</u>: 1500 more have been printed. Most are already folded. Supply being replenished at Library and Town Hall.

Greeting Cards: Available for sale year-round.

<u>Dam History and Chamberlain Bridge Sign</u>: These projects probably on hold for 2017.

McGaw Bridge: 2016. Under construction now.

Bean Road Bridge: 2016. Open soon????

<u>Preservation of Spalding foundation in Horse Hill.</u> Waiting for action by Eagle Scout for project approval.

NEXT MEETING: TBD. Waiting response for possibly June 13 and interest in the Historical Society meeting potential.

•